IN WASHINGTON: VA ANNOUNCES NEW TRANSITIONAL HOUSING LOAN PROGRAM FOR HOMELESS AND FORMERLY HOMELESS VETS

March 1, 2006 WASHINGTON, D.C. The United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has announced a forthcoming $100 million loan guarantee program for transitional multifamily housing specifically dedicated to serving homeless and formerly homeless veterans. VA anticipates issuing a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the program in 2006.

During the initial pilot phase of this program, VA will provide a 100 percent guarantee on up to fifteen mortgage loans funded by the Federal Finance Bank, an arm of the United States Treasury, to be used for the development, rehabilitation, or acquisition of transitional multifamily housing with the provision of supportive services for homeless and formerly homeless veterans. Loans are to be made in those communities that have the greatest need for such housing.

VA will deliver program funds as either combination construction and permanent guaranteed loans or permanent guaranteed loans. In most cases, VA-guaranteed loan amounts will fund less than 80 percent of total project costs. State or local governments or non-government entities must provide additional funding or substantial services.

Pictured here at the September 2005 Full Council meeting of the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness are United States Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary and former Council Chair James R. Nicholson (center), United States Housing and Urban Development Secretary and Council Chair Alphonso Jackson (second from right), Council Executive Director Philip Mangano (far right), and United Stated Department of Labor Assistant Secretary for the Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS) Charles S. (Chick) Ciccolella (far left).

Any organization interested in obtaining information about this funding opportunity should call 202-273-7462 or email Multifamily.Loan@va.gov. A summary of the legislation authorizing this program can be found on the VA program website.